

Flood Control Dams In Roger Mills County

Oklahoma has 2,107 flood control dams in 61 counties. These dam have been built in the state through conservation districts with financial and technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), authorized through Public Law 78-534, Flood Control Act of 1944 (Washita River Watershed) and Public Law 83-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

The primary purpose of flood control dams is to reduce flooding. The secondary benefits of the dams address a myriad of natural resource issues such as soil erosion, water quality, animal waste management, irrigation water management, water supply, wetland development or enhancement, fish and wildlife habitat and recreation.

Watershed projects also include conservation practices such as terraces, waterways, ponds, gully control, and pasture and rangeland plantings.

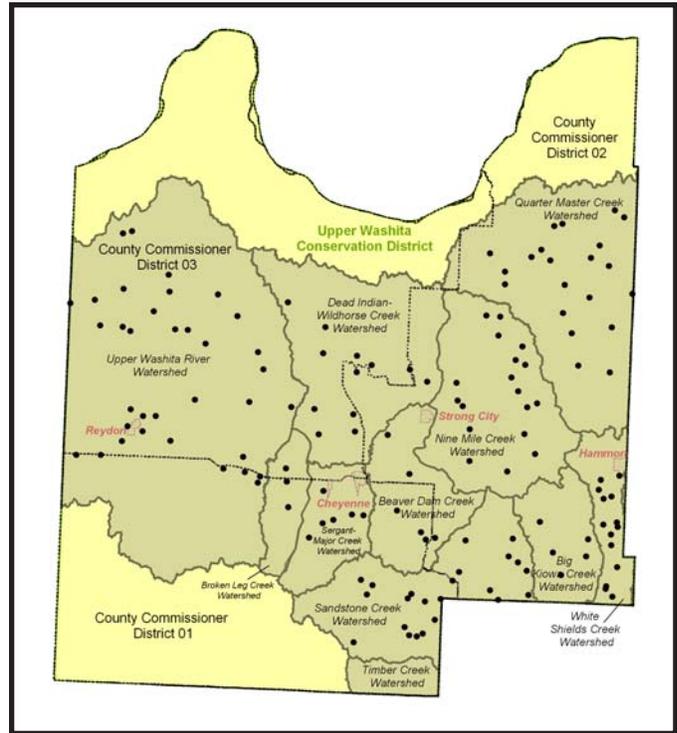
Operation and Maintenance of Dams

The annual operation and maintenance of dams is a major responsibility for project sponsors (local units of governments such as conservation districts).

Operation and maintenance of dams can be expensive and labor intensive, but is necessary to ensure dams function as they were designed and remain safe. Maintenance work includes clearing trees from dams and spillways, repairing erosion damage, repairing damage to dams and spillways following heavy rainstorms and keeping inlet towers cleared of debris. \$22 million is needed to meet the operation and maintenance needs of the 2,107 flood control dams in the state for fiscal years 2012-2016.

Annual Benefits

The 2,107 flood control dams and conservation practices in the watershed projects provide an estimated \$82 million in annual benefits. Listed below are the average annual benefits from watershed projects that are located in Roger Mills and adjoining counties.



Rehabilitation and Dam Safety

Some dams will need rehabilitation to remain safe and protect the people that live or work downstream. It is estimated that \$200 million will be required to rehabilitate the existing high hazard dams to comply with federal and state dam safety laws. More dams will become high hazard as long as residential and business development is allowed below the dam and in the breach flood area.

NRCS assistance is available to project sponsors in rehabilitating flood control dams with 65 percent federal cost-share and technical assistance. Local project sponsors provide 35 percent of the rehabilitation costs.

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Annual Watershed Benefits (Entire Watershed)							
Watershed Name	Dams in Watershed	Dams in Roger Mills County	*Monetary Benefits	Farms / Ranches Benefited	Bridges Benefited	Wetlands Enhanced/Created (acres)	Reduced Sedimentation (tons of soil)
Beaver Dam Creek	6	6	\$60,284	25	5	117	59,972
Big Kiowa Creek	6	5	\$68,035	23	5	151	108,135
Broken Leg Creek	3	3	\$43,348	9	2	76	21,175
Dead Indian Creek	12	12	\$402,899	59	8	346	121,278
Nine Mile Creek	18	18	\$214,531	49	28	225	54,605
QuarterMaster Creek	36	21	\$642,193	134	19	743	154,228
Sandstone Creek	42	23	\$356,503	60	8	809	296,123
Sergeant Major Creek	6	6	\$53,632	15	2	77	50,162
Upper Washita Creek	35	35	\$755,445	148	4	750	186,995
Whiteshield Creek	19	14	\$141,123	21	11	131	23,847
Total	183	143	\$2,738,003	543	92	3,425	1,076,521

*Monetary benefits include reduction in flood damages and may include other benefits such as soil erosion control, recreational areas, irrigation water, municipal and industrial water supply, and wildlife habitat (Price Base 2010). February 2011